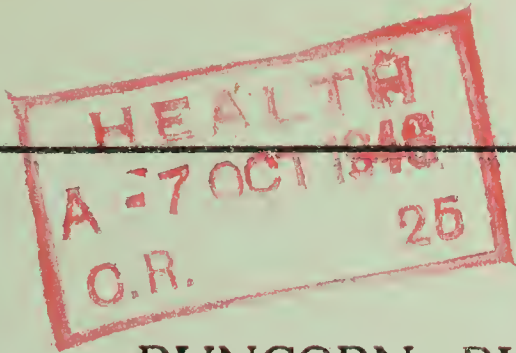


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RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December,

1945.



FRODSHAM,

OSMOND C. KEMP, PRINTER,

1946.



RURAL DISTRICT AUTHORITY  
OF RUNCORN.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
1945.

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By E. N. HILLMAN GRAY,  
L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
Medical Superintendent Dutton Isolation Hospital.

OFFICIALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health and Medical Superintendent Dutton Isolation Hospital:

Dr. E. N. HILLMAN GRAY, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors and Meat and Food Inspectors :

Mr. G. W. LLOYD, R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Appleton. (No. 2 District).  
Tel.: Stockton Heath 180.

Mr. D. BOOTHMAN, M.S.I.A., Frodsham. (No. 1 District).  
(Returned from H.M. Forces November, 1945).

Mr. R. HEWITT, S.I. (CERT.), B.M.S.I.A., Frodsham. (No. 3 District)

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors :

Mr. J. ANDREWS (with H.M. Forces).  
Mr. D. CARLISLE. Mr. P. MOSS.

---

Matron Dutton Isolation Hospital :

Miss N. MINTY, S.R.N. Tel.: Aston 201.

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# **RURAL DISTRICT OF RUNCORN. 1945.**

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## **Chairman of the Council :**

COUNCILLOR E. G. WHITE, J.P.

## **Vice-Chairman of the Council :**

COUNCILLOR C. WILKINSON.

## **Health Committee :**

COUNCILLOR J. HUNT, *Chairman.*

COUNCILLOR G. S. WALLWORTH, *Vice-Chairman.*

Councillor J. G. DAVIES	Councillor R. DEAKIN
„ T. I. FLETCHER	„ J. HEWITT
„ H. HELSBY	„ W. S. LOOKER
„ L. POLLARD	„ W. POSTONS
„ H. WALTON	„ E. G. WHITE, J.P.
„ C. WILKINSON	„ H. JACKSON
Councillor P. MCGINNESS	

## **OFFICERS :**

### **Clerk of the Council :**

Mr. J. A. MOOREFIELD, Frodsham.

### **Engineer and Surveyor :**

Mr. A. J. KING, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M. & CY. E., Frodsham.

### **Solicitor :**

Mr. W. E. HOUGH, Runcorn.

## INTRODUCTION.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RUNCORN.

Gentlemen,

This momentous year has seen the end of hostilities with Germany and Japan, leaving us with the aftermath—clearing up and the preparation for “Winning the Peace.” Let us hope that the combined operations and mutual aid, which meant so much to us in the War, will continue, for we will want these in dealing with preventive medicine generally, including the most important subjects of Housing and Food.

Dirty, overcrowded, insanitary dwellings, especially in dense areas, produce disease ; for the moment we can deal with the first, *i.e.* **DIRT**, by personal cleanliness (hot baths, clean clothes, etc.), and cleanliness in the home ; the latter by **frequent** and thorough “Spring Cleaning,” which has been proved to destroy disease germs and so prevent disease.

As regards overcrowded and insanitary dwellings—new houses are required, which must be a priority in matters to be dealt with. A short term policy has been settled, to be followed by a long term policy and eventually the eradication of dense areas, all fitting into a proper Town Planning Scheme.

A Housing survey of the district was commenced late in 1945 and should be completed in 1946.

Speaking generally, the health of the community has been satisfactory, especially considering war conditions. The latter have not decreased the efforts of all concerned in the essential work required in connection with Infectious Disease, Food, Milk, Water, Housing and Health Propaganda.

It is noted with the greatest satisfaction that the Government propose to deal by further Acts of Parliament with the many aspects of Public Health ; these will apply, for example to Housing, Town and Country Planning, Milk supplies, Water supplies, Sewage Disposal, Education and further facilities for medical treatment and social security.

The various excellent Voluntary Societies will, as before, be most useful agencies whereby members of the community will be



made aware of the contents of these various Acts of Parliament by explaining these to all concerned, and also informing citizens of the numerous voluntary societies which have available **now** facilities suitable for all tastes.

We must congratulate the National Council of Social Service, with their many attached Societies, etc., for their excellent voluntary work, and especially the Cheshire Community Council; in addition the Arts Council (Council for Encouragement of Music and the Arts [C.E.M.A.]) has, and in future will have an **important** bearing in bringing Music and Art to the people.

Community Centres and Village Halls with playing fields are required as soon as possible so that citizens may join together in search of further healthy mental and physical exercise. Children require suitable playing fields provided through the Education Authority and the National Playing Fields Association, assisted by the Central Council for Physical Recreation.

The Carnegie Trust, through the Cheshire Rural Community Council (Organising Secretary, N. Cottam, Esq., Newgate, Chester), have available grants and loans for Community Centres and Village Halls, they also assist, especially Music and Drama Societies, with grants for special advisers, etc.

The Carnegie Trust is only available for Community Centres and Village Halls in districts with a population of 5,000 or under. Where the population is over 5,000 the provision of Community Centres and Village Halls is the responsibility of the Education Authority.

The year 1945 has been a strenuous year, in that, with "First Aid" preventive measures only allowed, we have had an anxious time in carrying out our duties; the sincere thanks to all concerned, my council, Officials, Doctors, Nurses and all Voluntary bodies, is extended to them by me, for only by team work and co-operation could a satisfactory state of affairs be sustained; the various voluntary bodies, including the Central Council for Health Education, Arts Council (C.E.M.A.), the W.V.S., W.E.A., B.R.C., St. John's Societies and the C.A.B. (Citizens' Advice Bureau) must be specially mentioned.

The Ministry of Food have directed the attention of all to making use of the most readily available and best foods, in fact, have done much to help us to win the war, by keeping us healthy. May we continue to learn from our war experience, especially in the

choosing of foods available and improving our cooking with the inclusion in our daily diet of some uncooked fresh green vegetables, or if these are cooked we must see that this is carried out properly, otherwise valuable Vitamins will be lost.

A stock pot for soups should be used more extensively.

Fish, for example Herrings, are a valuable food, and Swedish Turnip has much Vitamin C in it, which will act as a good substitute for expensive fruits, etc. Fruit Juices as an extra should also be used daily, otherwise a condition of scurvy may occur due to Vitamin C deficiency. Rose hips and black currant juices, etc., have much Vitamin C in them.

Young children must have their daily milk, cod liver oil and fruit juice, school children their school meals and extra milk which should be suitably flavoured to encourage use of milk, so as to prevent disease and lay a Good Foundation for Health in the body.

Expectant mothers and certain special sick should have their extra milk, etc.

Diphtheria Immunisation proves again and again everywhere its wonderful powers to prevent this deadly disease ; ALL CHILDREN, preferably just before their first birthday, must be properly immunised, with a further dose in just under five years time, this can be obtained free of charge under the Council's scheme from their own Doctors (at the Surgery or at home), failing this at the Welfare Centre, Day Nursery or Schools. **Prevention is better than cure.**

Owing to the danger of serious cases of Smallpox arriving in this Country from abroad, all concerned are advised they must be vaccinated as required by the Act.

It is hoped that more **Youth Hostels** will become available generally, so allowing walkers and cyclists that necessary exercise and enjoyment in new and beautiful surroundings at very cheap rates. Youth Hostels are one of the many Youth Organisations available for all concerned (*e.g.* Scouts, Guides, etc.) open air exercise is cheap and essential to all.

**Health Education**—Immunisation, Skin Diseases, Dietetics and Cooking, also Venereal Disease, have all received special attention, lectures have been given, leaflets, etc., have been circulated to all Voluntary Societies, Youth Organisations, etc. The



Central Council for Health Education have been of great assistance in this connection. Education in health matters through voluntary societies, Schools, etc., is most important; on application to me lectures, films, etc., can be arranged.

**Infestation**—Infestations of children with head lice, which can not only convey infections, but through irritations and sometimes septic conditions, lower the standard of health of the children affected, is being dealt with as efficiently as possible. The use of Lethane Oil (with hot lysol solution and derbac comb) is strongly recommended as this has been found to be efficacious in the eradication of head lice. Derbac Soap with the Derbac comb has also been used. All parents and guardians should note this matter now and in the future.

**Scabies**—The scheme which was put into operation during the year 1942 in accordance with the Ministry of Health Scabies Order, is being carried out via General Practitioners, failing this, at the Warrington or Northwich cleansing centres on application to me. The treatment consisting of bathing and the application of Benzyl Benzoate. During the year the incidence of Scabies notified has been slight.

**Water Supply**—A detailed list of dwellings not on a main supply has been forwarded to the Ministry of Health (Manchester and London) and the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, as requested by the former. All should have a pure main supply as soon as possible, in cases of doubt as to the purity of a water supply this must be boiled or chlorinated before use; owners/occupiers concerned are informed of this quarterly, and where farms and farm dwellings are involved they are also recommended to approach the Cheshire War Agricultural Committee for a Grant.

**Disposal of Sewage**—My Council hope as soon as possible to deal with the laying of sewers, etc., in parishes requiring this in order of priority—a short and long term policy has been arranged.

**Maternity Home**—The Cheshire County Council has under consideration the provision of a Maternity Home to serve the Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts. The shortage of staff may delay the project, but it should be undertaken as soon as possible.

The Cheshire County Maternity and Child Welfare Committee make arrangements as required through the Welfare Centres for mothers to have their confinements in various Maternity Hospitals

(*i.e.* West Park and Clatterbridge) and Homes (*e.g.* Chester Maternity Home, etc.), also—

Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.  
 Chester Maternity Home.  
 Cleveland House, Wolverhampton.  
 Crewe Maternity Home.  
 The Garth, Neston.  
 Glossop Maternity Home.  
 Hope Hospital, Pendleton.  
 Liverpool Maternity Hospital.  
 Longton Cottage Hospital.  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.  
 Sale War Memorial Hospital.  
 Salvation Army Home, Liverpool.  
 Southfields, Bowden.  
 Warrington Borough (Victoria Park).  
 Widnes Maternity Home.

**Dutton Isolation Hospital**—Dutton Isolation Hospital is still being used as the combined Hospital for my Urban and Rural Districts. The Staff has been under establishment of Nurses for some time; those available have given efficient service, under the supervision of the Matron—Miss Minty, S.R.N.

**New Drugs for Treatment and New Insecticides**—The use of the "Sulpha Drugs," the further use of Penicillin and Streptomycin for all, has saved and will save much suffering, and many lives.

The new and wonderful Insecticides D.D.T. and "666" will help to wipe out insects, especially those which carry disease germs.

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The co-operation and help of all concerned in the Public Health Department has been greatly appreciated by me in the carrying out of my various duties, with special mention of the Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Lloyd (No. 2 District), Mr. Boothman (returned from H.M. Forces Nov., 1945, No. 1 District), and Mr. Hewitt (No. 3 District), the Pupil Sanitary Inspectors Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Moss, Mrs. Whitby (Clerical Duties—General), and Mrs. Brown (Clerical—Housing Duties).

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

E. N. HILLMAN GRAY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



**SECTION A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.**

(a)	Area (in acres) .....	45,765
(b)	Estimated population .....	31,710
(c)	Number of Inhabited Houses (end 1945) according to the Rate Books .....	9,962
(d)	Rateable value of the District .....	£2,176 8s. 4d.
(e)	Sum represented by one Penny rate (approx.) .....	£880
(f)	Density of Population. Number of persons per acre (estimated population) .....	1·44
(g)	Average number of persons per inhabited house (estimated population) .....	3·18

**Social Conditions.**

Agriculture and Dairy Farming are the chief Industries of the district; other Industries are Tanneries, Electric Cable, Electric Fittings and Steel Tube works, Flour Mills and Jam Works. Sand Quarrying is being carried on in the district, chiefly at Whitley and Moore.

Parts of the district are mainly residential.

**Unemployment**—Exact statistics are not available for this area, as the figures obtained by the local offices of the Ministry of Labour relate to the areas served by such offices, and these areas are not identical with the Runcorn Rural District. The incidence of unemployment however was low in the area.

Many of the inhabitants are employed in industrial areas outside the district. Others are employed on the railways and as porters in canal warehouses.

**Orphanages and Sanatoria**—There is one Orphanage (Children's Home) at Frodsham (270 children), one Open-air Convalescent School for Jewish children at Norley; two Sanatoria at Manley, each accommodating about 300 persons.

The excellent Residential Nursery for Young Children at Norley, which was opened during the war, has now been closed. This was staffed by the British Red Cross under the direction of the Ministry of Health.

**Welfare Centres**—The Cheshire County Council have under consideration the provision of more Welfare Centres in the district, at present there is a Welfare Centre at Helsby, Frodsham, Stockton Heath and Grappenhall.



## VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate .....	472	248	224
Illegitimate .....	19	10	9
	<hr/> 491	<hr/> 258	<hr/> 233

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15.5

Still Births .....	21	12	9
--------------------	----	----	---

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still births), 41.01.

Deaths .....	351	185	166
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Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.07

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 (Live and Still) Births.
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis .....	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes .....	Nil	Nil
Total .....	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> Nil

## Death Rate of Infants under One year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births (16 deaths) .....	Death Rate 32.58
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	33.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....	0.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	52
Measles (all ages) .....	1
Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	1

Particulars of any UNUSUAL OR EXCESSIVE MORTALITY  
during the year which has received or required comment.

The causes of the highest mortality were :

Heart Disease.....	99
Cancer .....	52

Heart Disease was prevalent in persons over 65 years of age, some cases may have been due to the effects of *e.g.* rheumatism in childhood, this is about to be further investigated under instruction from the Ministry of Health.

For further remarks on Cancer see page 33 (*i.e.* further research, early treatment, etc.)

There were 225 deaths of persons over 65 years of age.

		M.	F.	Total
From 65—69	Number of deaths	11	19	30
„ 70—79	„ „	62	59	121
„ 80—89	„ „	36	33	69
„ 90—99	„ „	1	4	5
„ 100 years	„ „	—	—	—

### Summary of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

(a) Premature Birth (7 months)	Female age 17 hours
Shock following injury to the head from a Forceps delivery	Female age 12 hours
(a) Inanition at birth (b) Premature birth, twin, 8½ months gestation	Female age 1 hour
1a Whooping Cough	Male age 3 weeks
(a) Congenital Heart Disease	Male age 4 months
1a Laryngeal spasm of newborn	Male age 1 day
(a) Exhaustion (b) Congenital defect of small intestine (confirmed by laparotomy in Pendleburys Children's Hospital at 2 days old	Female age 4 weeks
1a Marasmus (b) Icterus neonatorum	Male age 2 weeks
(a) Asphyxia (b) Hæmoptysis (c) Hæmorrhagic Diathesis	Female age 3 days
(a) Prematurity (28 weeks gestation)	Female age 6 days
1a Prematurity	Male age 2 days
1a Hydrocephalus and Spina Befida (b) Congenital Maldevelopment	Male age 3 weeks
1a Hydro cephalus	Male age 2 months
1a Internal Hæmorrhage	Male age 4 hours
1a Gastric enteritis (b) Associated with pyelitis. 2 Pyloric stenosis	Male age 3 months
1a Asphyxia (b) Atelectasis	
(2) Imperforate anus	Male age 30 mins.

### Prevention of any Unusual or Excessive Mortality—Children.

Treatment in a General Hospital or an Infectious Disease Hospital is available for all such cases if any Doctor decides that treatment will benefit, and the patient is fit to be moved. Premature births are specially treated in Hospital or Nursing Homes. District Nurses assist in nursing at Home.

More volunteers are **urgently** required for the County Council "Home Help Scheme." Helpers are paid through the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, 24 Nicholas Street, Chester.

The above is in addition to Health Education Welfare Schemes and Clinics, etc.

## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

#### 1. Public Health Officers.

The names and qualifications, districts, address and telephone are given at the beginning of the Report. In addition, Mr. Lloyd, Sanitary Inspector, has a sub-office in Stockton Heath, opposite to the British Restaurant.

#### 2. Facilities.

##### (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The Biological Institute of Messrs. Evans, Sons, Lescher and Webb Ltd., is established in Runcorn. The Institute examines pathological specimens of well supplies and also supplies serum for cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever and anthrax.

Food (including Milk) for analysis and water supplies are sent for sampling to the Deputy County Analyst.

##### (b) Ambulance Facilities.

Two well-equipped ambulances are maintained by the Local Authority. They are garaged at Dutton, in the centre of the area, whence there is easy access to all parts. One is used for infectious cases. Arrangements are in force with the Urban District for the co-ordination of ambulance services. The service is adequate for the time being, but when the local Fire Brigade is established under the County and/or Local Authority, it is recommended that an Ambulance and one Car for sitting cases be available at Frodsham and Stockton Heath, if these are not taken over with the new Hospital Services.

##### (c) Nursing in the Home.

(i) General. The whole of the area is served by Local Nursing Associations. Each employs one trained nurse. These Associations work independently of the County Authority.

(ii) Infectious Diseases. No provision is made for the nursing of infectious diseases in the homes.

##### (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

These are provided by the County Council as follows :



**(1) Maternity and Child Welfare :****Child Welfare Centres—**

Methodist Sunday School, Stockton Heath, alternate Mondays,  
2-30 p.m.

Methodist Sunday School, Grappenhall, alternate Mondays, 2-30 p.m.

Trinity Church House, Frodsham, alternate Tuesdays, 2-30 p.m.

29 High Street, Runcorn, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 2-30 p.m.

Ante-natal services: Ante-natal clinic, 29 High Street, Runcorn,  
Thursday, 9-30 a.m. Any expectant mother may be ex-  
amined twice by a Doctor of her own choice at her own home

**(2) Orthopædic Clinics.**

Methodist Sunday School, Stockton Heath, Tuesday and Friday,  
2-30 p.m.

29 High Street, Runcorn, Tuesday and Friday, 11 a.m.

**(3) Tuberculosis.**

Tuberculosis Dispensary, Memorial Hospital, Runcorn, Thursday,  
11 a.m.

**(4) Day Nursery, Okell Street, Runcorn.**

Under direct control of the County Council. Open each day 8 a.m.  
(except Sundays).

**(5) VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS (Free and Confidential)**  
serving the District—**Liverpool Royal Infirmary.**

Males—Monday, Wednesday and Friday					10-30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday	-	-	-	-	10-30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thursday	-	-	-	-	5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Females—Tuesday					4-30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday	-	-	-	-	12 noon to 1 p.m.

**Warrington Infirmary.**

Males and Females—Monday	-	-	-	-	11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Males—Thursday	-	-	-	-	5-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.
Females—Thursday	-	-	-	-	4-30 p.m. to 5-30 p.m.

**Warrington Borough General Hospital.**

Males and Females—Friday	-	-	-	-	12 noon to 2 p.m.
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**Chester Royal Infirmary.**

Males—Wednesday	-	-	-	-	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday-	-	-	-	-	12 noon to 2 p.m.
Females—Monday and Thursday	-				5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**(6) School Medical Service.**

Minor Ailments Clinic—Trinity Church House, Frodsham, Friday, 2 p.m.

29 High Street, Runcorn, Monday, Thursday, Friday, 2 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday 9-30 a.m.

**(e) HOSPITALS.**

(1) The Runcorn Victoria Memorial Hospital is a Voluntary Hospital with 32 beds, staffed by the local Medical Practitioners and Visiting Consulting Surgeons from Liverpool.

It is primarily for the reception of surgical and accident cases.

(2) Smallpox Hospital—The Council has an arrangement with Warrington Corporation for the accommodation of Smallpox cases.

(3) **Dutton Isolation Hospital**—47 beds—is under the control of the Runcorn Rural District Council, and is staffed by Dr. E. N. Hillman Gray as Medical Superintendent, Matron, Sister, 4 Assistant Nurses, and 1 Ward Maid. Extra Nursing Staff is engaged when necessary for special cases. Two porters (one resident) are employed at the Hospital; they do ambulance work and disinfection, in addition to their hospital duties.

Provision is made for the employment of Specialists for any case requiring their advice and skill.

All infectious cases from Runcorn Urban District are admitted here.

Special cases of Measles and Whooping Cough can obtain Hospital treatment.

Arrangements have been made for the admission of cases from other areas of the County in accordance with the scheme for co-ordination of hospital accommodation throughout the County, if sufficient staff is available.



Warrington Corporation Small Pox Hospital at Sankey—The right to send small pox patients to this hospital has been reserved by the Council and an annual subsidy is paid to the Warrington Corporation for this purpose.

(4) **Dutton Institution**—213 Beds—Controlled by Public Assistance Committee of the County. This infirmary is classified for admission of chronic sick cases. Cases requiring special treatment are transferred to Clatterbridge General Hospital (Wirral) and elsewhere.

(5) **Voluntary Hospitals receiving patients from this area :**

Manchester Royal Infirmary.  
 Chester Royal Infirmary.  
 Liverpool Royal Infirmary.  
 Liverpool Southern Hospital.  
 Liverpool Northern Hospital.  
 Liverpool Ear and Throat Hospital.  
 Victoria Memorial Hospital, Runcorn.  
 Warrington Infirmary.  
 Northwich Infirmary.  
 Altrincham General Hospital.  
 Manchester Royal Eye Hospital.

(6) There is one private maternity home in the area, in Grappenhall, this is visited by the representative of the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, and registered by him.

### **GENERAL.**

The Government Report on Hospitals in the North Western Area and there recommendations for the future has been received by my Council; this matter will probably be brought up again in 1946 when the Government's White Paper on the proposed State Medical Service is received, which will involve recommendations as to the treatment of patients locally and in Hospitals, Consultant, Specialist, and new laboratory services, etc.

### **SECTION C.**

#### **Sanitary Circumstances.**

1. (i) **Water.** For the information of the Ministry of Health (London and Manchester) and the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, only, a list of Water supplies (with all details) in the District

has been forwarded as requested. The recommendations therein have been agreed to by my Council under the new Water and Sewage Act. It is sincerely hoped that, with the aid of this Act, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Local Authority, a pure main water supply will be available for all. Where the purity of the water is in doubt occupiers are advised to boil water for small quantities, and chlorinate for large quantities. If the advice of myself or the Sanitary Inspectors is required, this is always available and occupiers are advised accordingly.

Owing to the restrictions imposed by war-time conditions, no important works were constructed during the year. The Council's existing supplies were satisfactorily maintained and no serious shortage occurred, though in some areas, notably Whitley, Antrobus and Great Budworth, the pressure falls considerably below that which is desirable, particularly at milk cooling times. Pending the construction of works to increase the pressure in this area, the consumers could materially assist towards an improvement by providing storage tanks of sufficient capacity for their daily milk cooling needs. These tanks would fill up during the night and would thus relieve the mains distribution system of the heavy demand placed upon it at "peak" draw off periods.

Since the publication of the last comprehensive Annual Report for the year 1939, the Council has closed down one of its own sources of supply, *i.e.* Ship Street, Frodsham. This was necessary owing to the fall in the water level of the borehole, which resulted in frequent overloading of the motors and consequent "burning out." Since then Frodsham has been supplied from the Warrington Corporation borehole at Foxhill, via Harrol Edge Reservoir in accordance with the terms of the agreement with Warrington Corporation.

Together with the drop in the water level at Ship Street, Frodsham, reductions in standing water levels have been observed at "Castle Park," where the water supply was formerly obtained from Hood Well and Synagogue's Well. Both of these wells failed completely, since when the Council Offices' and appurtenant buildings have been supplied from the town system.

A comprehensive scheme for cattle drinking supplies on Frodsham and Helsby Marshes has been partly completed by the Cheshire County Council.

(ii) **Drainage and Sewerage.** As in the case of water supplies, war-time restrictions prevented the construction of any new works of Sewerage or Sewage Disposal. Despite acute shortages of labour

and spare parts, the Council's existing purification works at Helsby, Acton Grange, Moore and the Isolation Hospital, continued to produce satisfactory effluents. The urgent need of fertilizers continued to inspire farmers to remove the sludge from the Acton Grange site, and it is hoped that they will do so until it is possible to improve the sludge drying process.

(iii) **Cesspools and Septic Tanks (old type).** In my opinion these should not be installed, but where sewers are not practicable, an up-to-date tank plus a suitable filter, etc., is recommended.

(iv) **Rivers and Streams—Tannery Effluent.** With regard to the effluents from the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Cliffe Lane Tannery, and the Grappenhall Tanning Co., both of these Companies have constructed certain works with the object of rendering the effluent of such a nature which would be acceptable by this Council to be treated at the Sewage Works.

One of the Works only has been completed, but the defect still exists at one Tannery. The Lancashire and Cheshire Rivers Board have agreed to take this up and clear up this long standing grievance.

2. (i) **Closet Accommodation.** No conversions were carried out during the year.

(ii) **Public Cleansing.** The Council took over Refuse Collection for the whole of the area under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor. The Parishes of Helsby, Alvanley and Manley were taken over in March, and the remaining Parishes in the Rural Area (with the exception of Whitley and Antrobus) during August and October as the contracts entered into by the Contractors expired.

It is hoped that the whole of the area including Whitley and Antrobus will be dealt with by 1946.

Disposal of Refuse is by tipping which should be "controlled."



(iii) **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

The following tabular statement is furnished by the Sanitary Inspectors under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (outside London) Regulations, 1935, or Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926 :

Nature of Inspection.	No. of Inspections	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices
Dwelling Houses (Housing Acts) .....	3117	—	—
Dwelling Houses (General) .....	101	49	6
Dwelling Houses (No. of Inmates) .....	10	6	—
Schools .....	32	1	—
Camping Grounds (Tents, Vans, Sheds) .....	24	3	—
Water Supplies (Samples) .....	22	6	1
Water Supplies (other inspections) .....	20	—	—
Defective Roofs, Gutters, etc. ....	89	47	10
Ashplaces, Earth Closets .....	52	24	1
Drains, Sanitary Fittings .....	117	53	4
Cesspools .....	12	4	—
Ditches, Brooks .....	83	8	—
Sewer Matters .....	27	10	—
Drain Colour Tests .....	6	2	—
Refuse Collection and Disposal .....	300	10	—
Streets, Yards, Passages .....	69	11	1
Foul Accumulations .....	11	11	—
Vermin (Rats, Bugs, etc.) .....	116	29	—
Piggeries .....	16	—	—
Offensive Trades .....	—	—	—
Dairy Farms .....	337	12	—
Milk Retailers .....	60	2	—
Milk Tests and Inquiries .....	83	14	—
Factories and Workshops .....	47	4	—
Shops and Food Stores .....	222	—	—
Meat and Food Inspection Visits .....	132	14	—
Canal Boats .....	22	—	—
Zymotic Inquiries .....	176	—	—
Visits to Contacts and Schools .....	87	—	—
Mortuaries .....	30	—	—
Miscellaneous .....	83	21	—
Billeting Marching in/out .....	—	—	—
Petrol Storages .....	18	—	—
Bakehouses .....	37	1	—
	<hr/> 5558	<hr/> 342	<hr/> 23

(iv) **Shops.**

There are 290 Shops in the district of the Local Authority, and during the year 222 inspections of the same have been made. Apart from a few minor contraventions, the shops were found to be in a satisfactory condition in relation to ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation.

The provisions of the Employment of Young Persons Act and the Shops (Closing Hours) Act are controlled by the County Council.

(v) **Smoke Abatement.**

The Council remains a constituent authority with the Manchester Regional Smoke Abatement Committee and makes a contribution to its funds for providing special Smoke Inspectors.



**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.****Home Office Form 572.**

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (i)	Number of		
	Inspections (ii)	Notices (iii)	Occupiers Prosecuted (iv)
Factories with Mechanical Power .....	19	4	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power.....	28	Nil	Nil
Other Premises under the Act (including works of Building and Engineering Construction but not including out-workers premises) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .....	47	4	Nil

2. Defects found—

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts .....	—	—	—	—
Want of cleanliness (S1) .....	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2) .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temp're (S3)				
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6) .....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7):				
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to home work or offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to Ministry of Health)	2	2	—	—
(Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers order, 1921, and re-enacted in the third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) .....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	4	4	—	—

All factories are entered in the register kept for the purpose. There are no "Outworkers" in the District.

## vi Swimming Baths.

There are no Public Swimming Baths in the District.

### (1) Camping Sites and Caravans.

### (2) Housing of Imported Labour.

Both these important questions are being dealt with through the special combined Housing Committee (Cheshire County Council and Rural District Councils) ; it is hoped that their recommendations will be available soon and the necessary action taken to remedy certain defects.

### Camping Sites.

1. Number of sites in the area which were used for Camping purposes .....	23
2. Number of Camping Sites in respect of which Licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. ....	20
3. Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time, during the summer season, 1945 .....	100

## vii. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The following particulars are given of action taken for the eradication of bed bugs :

	Infested.	Disinfested.
1. (a) Number of Council Houses .....	0	0
(b) Number of other Houses .....	5	5
2. During the year serious infestation and reinfestations were dealt with at a large National Services Hostel in the district.		

Five houses were also very successfully disinfested using a spray containing D.D.T. One treatment only proving necessary although the degree of infestation could be regarded as being fairly heavy.

D.D.T. preparations are now in regular use in the district, and are also available at local chemists.

## 3. Schools.

During the year, 32 inspections of public elementary schools have been made ; 1 informal notice was served and complied with.

In conjunction with the Schools Medical Officer of Health of the County Council, every effort has been made to protect the health of the Scholars, and all the schools in the area, where found necessary, have been disinfested during the year as a precaution against the spread of infection.

#### 4. Mortuaries.

The Mortuaries controlled by the Council at Frodsham and Stockton Heath are in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

#### 5. Outworks.

Outwork in unwholesome Premises, Section 108. There is nothing to report under this section in this Area.

### SECTION D.—HOUSING.

#### New Houses in 1945.

Number of new houses erected by Local Authority.....	6
Number of new houses erected by other bodies and persons .....	Nil
	<hr/>
Total .....	6
	<hr/>

Parishes.	New Houses erected 1945.		No. of inhabited houses in Rural District 31st Dec. 1945.
	Total per Parish	Local Authority	
Alvanley .....	—	—	85
Antrobus .....	—	2	211
Appleton .....	—	—	747
Aston .....	—	—	64
Budworth (Great) .....	—	—	109
Daresbury .....	—	—	72
Dutton .....	—	—	91
Frodsham .....	—	—	1407
Grappenhall .....	—	—	1749
Halton .....	—	—	419
Hatton .....	—	—	91
Helsby .....	—	—	720
Kingsley .....	—	2	344
Manley .....	—	—	130
Moore .....	—	2	157
Norley .....	—	—	264
Norton .....	—	—	42
Preston Brook .....	—	—	113
Stockton Heath .....	—	—	2167
Stretton .....	—	—	128
Sutton .....	—	—	187
Walton .....	—	—	504
Whitley .....	—	—	161
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals .....	Nil	6	9962
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



(i) **Housing Inspection—Housing Act, 1936.**

A systematic inspection of all houses up to and including a rateable value of £20 in the District has been commenced in accordance with the recommendations of the Hobhouse Report, and this will be completed early in 1946. Apart from this survey, no routine inspections have been made during the year owing to present conditions, *i.e.* lack of labour and materials.

Informal action has, however, been taken with good results in many cases with regard to Sanitary Defects.

(ii) <b>Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.</b>		1938	1945
(a)	i. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	30	56
	ii. Number of families dwelling therein .....	30	56
	iii. Number of persons dwelling therein .....	202	316
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	9	Nil
(c)	i. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	37	41
	ii. Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	236	147
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....	Nil	Nil

**SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

(a) Milk Supply.	Budworth	Frodsham	
	Area	Area	Total
No. of Producers registered .....	151	233	384
No. of Retail Dairymen registered.....	40	62	102
No. of Producers of Accredited Milk .....	87	145	232
No. of Producers of T.T. Milk .....	2	4	6
No. of Cowsheds "improved " in 1945 .....	4	4	8
No. of Samples examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli .....	12	12	24
No. of these Samples found to contain Tubercle Bacilli .....	—	—	—
No. of Adverse Reports from outside Authorities .....	—	—	—

Periodical inspections are made by the Sanitary Inspectors under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Considerable business is done in the area in the production and purveying of milk, and in this direction the principal points stressed to all concerned again are: to have healthy herds strict cleanliness must be observed on the Farm, by the Retailer and the

Consumer, and all Milk must be kept in a cool dark place properly covered from dust and flies, and used within twenty-four hours after delivery, especially during warm weather.

(b) **Meat and other Foods.**

The Sanitary Inspectors act as Meat Inspectors.

During the year 132 visits were made in respect of Meat and Food Inspections, and 222 visits to other premises where foods are prepared and sold.

No Meat Marketing Scheme under Part III. of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, is in force in this district.

Owing to the War no Slaughter Houses were used during the year 1945 ; all animals being slaughtered in the adjoining Urban District of Runcorn.

Post-mortem examination of Pigs occasionally slaughtered at farms under Ministry of Food Special Licences has been carried out as required.

(c) **Adulteration, etc. Food and Drugs Adulteration Act.**

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his department in the Runcorn Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act during the year 1945.

Samples obtained during year ended 31st December, 1945.

Name of Sample.	No. obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Baking Powder .....	1	—
Butter .....	1	—
Bacon .....	1	—
Castor Oil .....	1	—
Camphorated Oil .....	1	—
Coffee .....	2	—
Cooking Fat .....	1	—
Fish Paste .....	1	—
Milks .....	45	10
Meat Paste .....	1	—
Margarine .....	1	—
Semolina .....	1	—
Sugar .....	1	—
Soup Powder .....	1	—
Self-Raising Flour .....	1	—
Tartaric Acid .....	1	—
Vinegar .....	1	—
Zinc Ointment .....	1	—



(d) **Shell-Fish (Molluscan).**

There are no Shell-fish beds in the area. Shell-fish are on sale regularly in the district. If Shell-fish, Mussels or Shrimps are eaten locally, they must be well cooked and should come from Government controlled beds.

(e) **Watercress.**

Only that as grown on properly controlled beds with a pure water supply should be sold and bought, otherwise there is a danger of intestinal disease spreading.

## **SECTION F.**

### **PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

The prevailing varieties of notifiable disease during the year were mainly confined to Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever.

(i) **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

My Council's free scheme is still available so that Parents and Guardians can have their children properly immunised against the deadly disease Diphtheria.

All children one to fifteen years of age, **preferably just before one year of age**, should be properly immunised against Diphtheria; in addition a "Booster Dose" is required in five years time. This can be obtained free of cost through the Parents' or Guardians' own Doctor (at the Surgery or at home), failing this, at Schools or Welfare Centres or Day Nurseries, to which application should be made.

Propaganda on the above has been continuously carried out aided by the Press and the Central Council for Health Education, but still some children are found on admission to Hospital to have not been immunised, and some have suffered from very serious complications as a result. Parents or Guardians should face up to their responsibilities and have their children properly immunised at once. **"Prevention is Better than Cure."**

It will be noted that through my Council's **Free Scheme** the percentage of children immunised has risen to over 99%; it is recommended that when staff are available immunisation is carried out in the future in Welfare Centres and Schools by their respective Medical Services under control of the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire; in addition to the free immunisation through local Doctors (at the Surgery or at home).

The following figures speak for themselves :

**Runcorn Urban District—**

Number of cases of Diphtheria in 1939	.....	.....	157
Number of cases of Diphtheria in 1945	.....	.....	7
Number of children Immunised in 1939	.....	.....	50%
Number of children Immunised in 1945	.....	.....	98%

**Runcorn Rural District—**

Number of cases of Diphtheria in 1939	.....	.....	29
Number of cases of Diphtheria in 1945	.....	.....	11
Number of Children Immunised in 1939	.....	.....	58%
Number of Children Immunised in 1945	.....	.....	99%

(ii) **Prevention of Disease from Abroad.**

The Government under the appropriate Acts have a system of medical examination, etc., for those persons arriving in this country from abroad who have been in areas where serious infectious disease has occurred. All contacts are medically examined, given written and verbal instructions what to do if they feel ill, and the local Medical Officer of Health is notified of their arrival, and he arranges for the necessary supervision. With the outbreaks of the serious type of Smallpox abroad, it is again strongly recommended that all infants and others should be properly vaccinated according to the law on the subject, this can be carried out free of charge through the local Vaccination Medical Officer.

(iii) **Research.**

When further research reveals more about the virus causing, *e.g.* Measles and Whooping Cough, sound curative sera could be made when these diseases could be controlled and eventually wiped out.

Further research is required into the "Carrier" state of many diseases with a view to providing a cure for these, but preventive measures, *e.g.* Diphtheria Immunisation, Small Pox Vaccination, Innoculation against Typhoid Fever and other diseases will be necessary for many years where these diseases are likely to occur, or are prevalent; in addition proper hygiene and sanitation are an essential. Cancer, Tuberculosis, "Rheumatism," Allergic diseases and the common Cold require further intensive research.

(iv) **Formalin Treatment of Diphtheria Carriers.**

This Treatment I instituted in 1939 for Diphtheria Nose and Throat Carriers (and first contacts of Diphtheria) is still proving succesful. An article on the subject by myself was printed in the British Medical Journal, June, 1945.



(v) **NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)**  
**During the year 1945.**

The following Table includes particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases in the area during the year 1945.

Disease.	Total Cases Diagnosed.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.....	59	32	—
Diphtheria .....	11	11	2
Erysipelas .....	3	—	—
Pneumonia .....	15	—	9
Measles .....	135	—	1
Whooping Cough.....	76	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	3	—	—

An analysis of the total notified cases under the following age groups are given below :

Disease.	Total Cases at all ages.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 to over
Scarlet Fever	59	—	2	2	5	2	23	9	7	2	3	4	—
Diphtheria .....	11	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	1	4	—	1	—
Erysipelas .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Pneumonia .....	15	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	3	1	6	—
Measles.....	135	6	13	14	18	25	48	7	3	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	76	6	8	8	12	10	28	—	—	2	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Totals.....	302	13	24	26	35	37	104	17	11	14	6	14	1

Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided free to Medical Practitioners and can be obtained at any time from the local laboratories of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, or in great emergency from Dutton Isolation Hospital. **In few diseases is prompt treatment as necessary as in Diphtheria.**

Antitoxin should be given in all suspicious cases at once in the home or in Hospital. Swabbing is only an aid to diagnosis.

Swabs from suspected cases of Diphtheria are examined at Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb's Laboratory.

Swabs examined during 1945 ..... 82 (Positive 5, Negative 77).



## (vi) Classified Table of Cancer Deaths.

Age —	0 — 30		30 — 50		50 — 70		70 and over.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Bladder .....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Brain .....	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Breast .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Genital Organs :									
Prostate .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Uteris .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ovary .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Liver .....	—	—	2	—	1	3	3	1	10
Lymph Glands :									
Rt. Leg and Pelvis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Mediastinum & Post Cervical .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Lungs .....	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	4
Pancreas .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Rectum .....	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	5
Remainder of Intestinal Tract :									
Oesophaguses .....	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3
Colon .....	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	3	8
Caecum .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Stomach .....	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	5
Throat and Mouth .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Male Deaths .....	—	—	4	—	8	—	15	—	Total 52
Female Deaths .....	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	12	

The 52 deaths from Cancer give a rate of 1·64 per 1,000 of population, or 14·81% of total number (351) deaths reported during year.

## Runcorn Rural District.

## (vi) TOTAL DEATHS, 1945.

Causes of Death.					Males.	Females.
All Causes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	185	166
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
2 Cerebro spinal fever .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
4 Whooping Cough .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
5 Diphtheria .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
6 Tuberculosis respiratory system .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4
7 Other forms of tuberculosis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2
8 Syphilitic diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2
9 Influenza .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
10 Measles .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—

Cause of Death.				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
11	Ac: Polio-myel & polio-enceph: .....	.....	.....	—	—
12	Ac: Inf: enceph: .....	.....	.....	—	—
13	Cancer of buc: cav: and œsoph (M)				
	uterus (F) .....	.....	.....	3	1
14	Cancer of stomach & duodenum .....	.....	.....	7	2
15	Cancer of breast .....	.....	.....	—	3
16	Cancer of all other parts .....	.....	.....	18	18
17	Diabetes .....	.....	.....	3	2
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions .....	.....	.....	15	21
19	Heart Disease .....	.....	.....	53	46
20	Other dis: of cir: system .....	.....	.....	8	12
21	Bronchitis .....	.....	.....	10	8
22	Pneumonia .....	.....	.....	5	4
23	Other resp: diseases .....	.....	.....	2	3
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum .....	.....	.....	1	—
25	Diarrhœa under 2 years .....	.....	.....	1	—
26	Appendicitis .....	.....	.....	1	1
27	Other digestive diseases .....	.....	.....	4	2
28	Nephritis .....	.....	.....	6	8
29	Puer: and post-abortion: sepsis .....	.....	.....	—	—
30	Other maternal causes .....	.....	.....	—	—
31	Prem: birth .....	.....	.....	1	1
32	Con: mal: birth inj: infant: dis: .....	.....	.....	6	4
33	Suicide .....	.....	.....	2	2
34	Road Traffic accident .....	.....	.....	1	—
35	Other violent causes .....	.....	.....	6	2
36	All other causes .....	.....	.....	23	17
Deaths of Infants under 1 year. {					
Total .....				11	5
Legitimate .....				11	5
Illegitimate .....				—	—
Live Births {					
Total .....				258	233
Legitimate .....				248	224
Illegitimate .....				10	9
Stillbirths {					
Total .....				12	9
Legitimate .....				10	8
Illegitimate .....				2	1

Population ..... (Estimated) 31,710  
Comparability Factor not available for 1945.

# Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates and case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1945.

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns (Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Runcorn Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
<b>BIRTHS—</b>					
Live .....	15·5	16·1	19·1	19·2	15·7
Still .....	0·66	0·46	0·58	0·53	0·40
<b>DEATHS—</b>					
All Causes .....	11·07	11·4	13·5	12·3	13·8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid .....	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever .....	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough .....	0·03	0·02	0·02	0·01	0·02
Diphtheria .....	0·06	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·01
Influenza .....	0·00	0·08	0·07	0·07	0·07
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—
Measles....	0·03	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age .....	33	46	54	43	53
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age .....	2·03	5·6	7·8	4·5	7·6
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
<b>NOTIFICATIONS :</b>					
Typhoid Fever .....	0·00	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Paratyphoid Fever .....	0·00	0·01	0·00	0·00	0·00
Cerebro Spinal Fever .....	0·06	0·05	0·05	0·05	0·06
Scarlet Fever .....	1·86	1·89	2·02	2·03	1·57
Whooping Cough .....	2·30	1·64	1·65	1·47	1·25
Diphtheria .....	0·41	0·46	0·52	0·56	0·31
Erysipelas .....	0·09	0·25	0·28	0·24	0·31
Smallpox .....	0·00	0·00	0·00	—	0·00
Measles .....	4·25	11·67	10·89	11·19	9·03
Pneumonia....	0·47	0·87	1·03	0·72	0·78
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :					
(a) Notifications—					
Puerperal Fever .....	5·85	9·93	12·65	8·81	3·60
Puerperal Pyrexia .....					15·87
(b) Maternal Mortality (England and Wales) :					
No. 140	No. 141	No. 147	Nos. 142-6 148-150		
Abortion with Sepsis	Abortion without Sepsis	Paerperal Infections	Other		
0·25	0·08	0·24	1·22		
Abortion : Mortality per million women aged 15—45 (England and Wales) :					
No. 140 with Sepsis.			No. 141 without Sepsis.		
18			6		



(vii) **Care of the Blind.**

The welfare of Blind Persons is dealt with by the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, under the appropriate Act, working in conjunction with the Blind Welfare Societies.

(viii) **Mental Deficiency and Special Schools for Defective Children.**

This is dealt with as required by the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, and the appropriate Departments, etc.

(ix) **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

Cases of this disease are notified immediately to the County and local Medical Officer of Health and arrangements are made by the former for Specialist and/or Hospital treatment as required.

(x) **Cancer (Cancer Act, 1939).**

An amended extract from the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, Annual Report on this matter which reads as follows :

“ For the treatment of Cancer generally, patients who consult their own Doctors and can afford the cost of treatment (or get recommends—British Empire Cancer Campaign) go to the larger Hospitals offering facilities in Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, Birkenhead, Chester and Warrington.

For those who appeal to the local authority for treatment the following arrangements are in force :

1. Provided by the Local Authority—  
Clatterbridge County Hospital.

Here Radium and Operative treatment are carried out but there are no facilities at present for deep X-Ray Therapy. Cases requiring such treatment are referred to the Radium Institute, Liverpool, from the Hospital. It is intended that when the extensions to Clatterbridge Hospital are completed such treatment will be available there.

2. By arrangement with other Hospitals—(Public Assistance Committee).

- (a) Manchester Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute.
- (b) Chester Royal Infirmary.

Arrangements are in force for Radium, Operative treatment and Deep X-ray Therapy at both the above Hospitals.

Early diagnosis and treatment is **MOST** important in this Disease.”

(xi) **Tuberculosis.**

No person employed in the milk trade was found suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, nor was it found necessary to compulsorily remove to hospital any person suffering from Tuberculosis.

For the prevention of this disease—see Summary at end; in addition, remarks on food in preface. Early diagnosis (X-ray, etc.), proper treatment, thorough disinfection of homes when cases go to Sanatorium, separate rooms and utensils, frequent visits by Health Visitors and as required by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector. All new cases are specially investigated by me and reported to the County Medical Officer of Health, Cheshire, and as required to H.M. Inspector of Factories.

In my opinion all milk, especially for children, should be properly pasteurised.

Particulars of the 34 new cases of Tuberculosis and of the 8 deaths from the disease in the area during 1945:—

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 .....	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	2
4—14 ...	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—24 ...	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34 ...	3	3	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—44 ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—54 ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Totals.....	14	9	4	7	1	3	2	2
	*							

All of the 8 Deaths were Notified Cases.

Specimens of Sputum from suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis are examined at the Cheshire County Council's Laboratory.

During the year 1945, the following Sputums were dealt with:  
Total No. of Sputums ..... 88 (Negative 65, Positive 23).

## Tuberculosis Cases on Register.

## Comparative Rates.

Year	Estimated Population	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total all Forms	No. per 1,000 of Population
		M	F	M	F		
1945.....	31,710	71	53	32	41	197	6.21
1944.....	.....	65	53	37	47	202	
1943.....	.....	66	49	31	42	188	
1942.....	.....	67	47	31	43	188	
1941.....	.....	61	42	30	37	170	
1940.....	32,790	52	38	31	37	158	4.81
1939.....	32,420	52	40	32	38	162	5.0

## ISOLATION HOSPITAL REPORT, 1945.

	Urban	Rural	Total
No. of Patients in Hospital at 1st Jan., 1945 .....	3	6	9
No. of Patients admitted during 1945.....	66	68	134
No. of Patients discharged during 1945 .....	65	73	138
No. of Patients died in Hospital during 1945 (Diphtheria).....	1	1	2
No. of Patients in Hospital at end of Dec., 1945 .....	3	—	3
No. of Scarlet Fever cases admitted during 1945 .....	48	33	81
No. of Diphtheria .....	6	6	11
No. of Diphtheria, Streptococcal Tonsillitis and Vincent's Angina .....	7	2	
No. of Diphtheria and Streptococcal Tonsillitis.....	1	3	
No. of Diphtheria and Vincent's Angina .....	—	—	—
No. of Diphtheria Carriers .....	4	2	6
No. of Diphtheria Carriers Streptococcal Ton- sillitis .....	—	3	3
No. of Acute Follicular Tonsillitis .....	3	5	8
No. of Acute Streptococcal Tonsillitis.....	1	6	7
No. of Acute Catarrhal Tonsillitis .....	1	1	2
No. of Vincent's Angina .....	—	2	2
No. of C.S.M. (Meningococcal) .....	—	1	1
No. of Scarlet Fever and Chicken Pox .....	1	—	1
No. of Scarlet Fever and Facial Erysipilas.....	—	1	1
No. of Erysipilas .....	1	—	1
No. of Acute Catarrhal Enteritis .....	—	1	1
No. of ? Cystitis (transferred) .....	—	1	1
No. of Left otorrhœa .....	—	1	1
Average length of stay in Hospital—23 days .....			
	66	68	134



## ANNUAL REPORT OF CANAL BOAT INSPECTOR.

In accordance with Section 249 (3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, I beg to report as follows :

22 Canal Boats were inspected during the year 1945, at the Stockton Heath, Preston Brook, and Norton Quays.

There were no contraventions, and no infectious diseases were reported on the Boats whilst they were in our area.

The number of persons occupying the boats inspected were :

Males ..... 28.      Females ..... 15.      Children ..... 10.

Total nett adults ..... 48.

The number allowed by the Certificates was 66.

—————o—————

## SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORT.

Considering War conditions the General Health of the Community has been satisfactory : when the various preventive and curative measures mentioned in this Report are put into effect, health (mental and physical) should greatly improve, provided **all** concerned co-operate. Improved housing conditions, food and further Health Education are **urgently required**.

**E. N. HILLMAN GRAY, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P H**

Medical Officer of Health.

Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts.

Medical Supt. Dutton Isolation Hospital.

